

Alaska Local and Regional Information

Workforce Info

Houston

Houston is a second class city north of Wasilla in the Mat-Su Borough, about 60 miles north of Anchorage on the George Parks Highway. Many residents are employed in Palmer, Wasilla or Anchorage. Houston is part of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

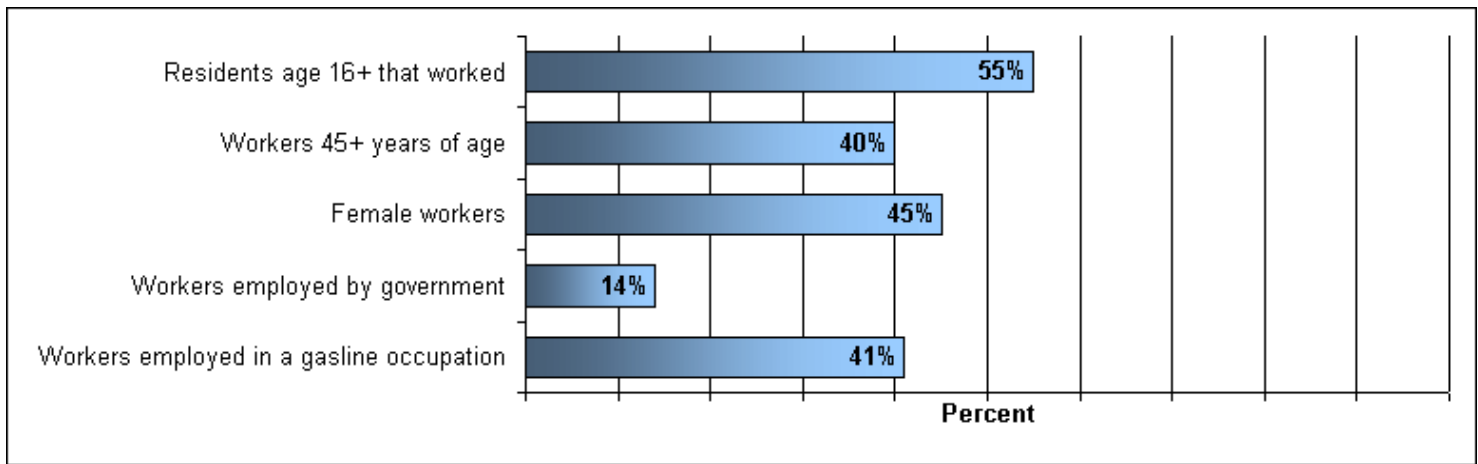
- ♦ The estimated population for 2008 was 1,755, a gain of about 553 since the 2000 Census.
- ♦ About 55 percent of the resident population 16+ years old worked in 2008.
- ♦ Trade, Transportation and Utilities was the main industry in 2008, employing 24 percent of the area's workers.
- ♦ More workers were employed as Construction Laborers and Cashiers than any other occupation.

Please note: There is an important distinction between the local/regional employment data and our "standard" employment series. Most of these data reflect totals for area residents only. Total worker counts may be lower than expected in areas with a large number of nonresident workers. The Alaska Permanent Fund dividend file is used to determine the worker's geographic residence. Only Alaska residents (as defined by PFD application) are included in these totals. Also note that federal employees, the military, and the self-employed are not included in these data.

Houston Resident Snapshot (2008)			
Working Age Residents		Wages	
Residents age 16+	1,337	Total wages	\$23,429,856
Resident Worker Characteristics		Resident Workers by Sector	
Total	742	Private	637
Male	408	State government	28
Female	333	Local government	77
Age 45+	296	Quarterly Number of Resident Workers	
Age 50+	192	Peak (2nd) quarter workers	659
		Percent working all 4 quarters	65.5%
Unemployment		Construction/AGIA Occupation Experience (2004-2008)	
UI Claimants	177	Some construction	243
		At least 1 year construction	151
New Hires		At least 2 years construction	96
New hires	320	Worked in an AGIA occupation	581

An asterisk (*) means data are suppressed. Numbers may not sum due to rounding. **AGIA** (Alaska Gasline Inducement Act) means the occupation has been identified as a core occupation involved in the gasline project.

2008 Residents

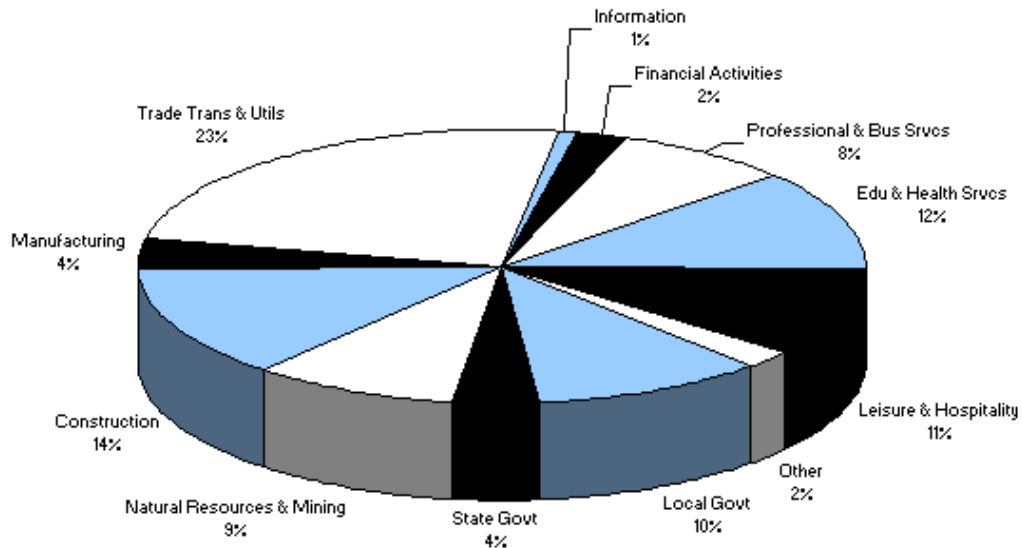


Top Occupations

	Number employed	Percent female	Age 45+	Age 50+
Construction Laborers AGIA HOT JOB	25	8.0%	6	5
Cashiers	25	80.0%	6	4
Retail Salespersons	21	57.1%	10	6
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators AGIA HOT JOB	19	5.3%	12	8
Carpenters AGIA HOT JOB	17	0.0%	6	4
Office Clerks, General AGIA	17	88.2%	6	5
Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	17	5.9%	5	4
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	16	68.8%	6	4
Food Preparation Workers AGIA	16	75.0%	3	1
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	16	68.8%	1	1
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand AGIA	15	6.7%	8	4
Sales and Related Workers, All Other	14	57.1%	1	0
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	13	69.2%	9	7
Personal and Home Care Aides	11	90.9%	5	4
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners AGIA	11	36.4%	4	3
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer AGIA HOT JOB	10	0.0%	5	4
Waiters and Waitresses	9	88.9%	3	2
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners AGIA	8	75.0%	4	2
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General AGIA	8	12.5%	3	2
Helpers--Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Workers AGIA	8	12.5%	2	0
Teacher Assistants	8	100.0%	5	3
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters AGIA HOT JOB	8	0.0%	3	0
Driver/Sales Workers	8	25.0%	2	2
Receptionists and Information Clerks AGIA	8	87.5%	3	1

An asterisk (*) means data are suppressed. **AGIA** (Alaska Gasline Inducement Act) means the occupation has been identified as a core occupation involved in the gasline project. **HOT JOB** means the occupation is projected to have a high growth rate and numerous openings, and has an above average wage.

Resident Workers by Industry



Workers by Industry

	Number employed	Percent female	Age 45+	Age 50+
Natural Resources and Mining	67	6.0%	26	18
Construction	100	12.1%	38	25
Manufacturing	27	14.8%	11	6
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	177	46.9%	72	42
Information	8	50.0%	4	3
Financial Activities	16	62.5%	3	2
Professional and Business Services	57	40.4%	22	15
Educational and Health Services	88	79.5%	36	23
Leisure and Hospitality	78	56.4%	19	11
State Government	28	60.7%	14	11
Local Government	77	67.5%	45	32
Other	17	47.1%	6	4
Unknown	*	*	*	*

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Recent Unemployment Statistics

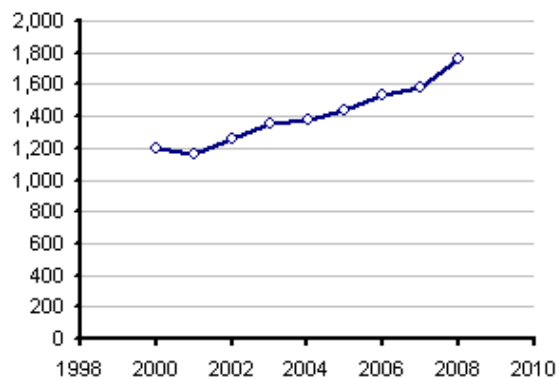
	09/2009	10/2009	11/2009	12/2009
UI Claimants**	14	16	23	28

**UI claimants are individuals in this area who had an active claim at any time during the month.

Top Employers (ranked by number of workers)

Mat Su Borough Schools
State of AK (excludes U of A)
ASRC Energy Services O&M Inc
Three Bears Alaska Inc
Veco Alaska Inc
Palmer-Wasilla Health System LLC
Wal-Mart Associates Inc
Spenard Builders Supply Inc
Home Depot USA Inc
Safeway Inc
Wasilla City of
Fred Meyer Stores Inc
Veritas DGC Land Inc

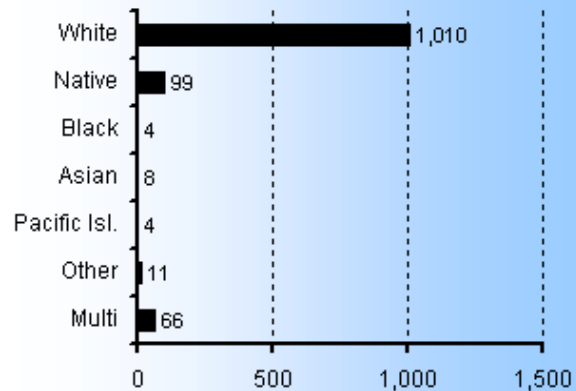
Population over Time



2000 Census

Median Age	34.1
Average Family Size	3.3
Average Household Size	2.7
Per Capita Income	\$17,213
Median Family Income	\$46,818
Median Household Income	\$39,615

Population by Race



(Note: Racial classification is based on self identification. The "Multi" category consists of those who claim to be members of more than one race. The "Native" category includes Alaska Natives and American Indians.)

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section
Last updated: 02-Feb-10